

THINK JESUS

Change Your Mind, Change Your Life

July 9, 2023

Isaiah 55:8 MSG I don't think the way you think. The way you work isn't the way I work. For as the sky soars high above earth, so the way I work surpasses the way you work, & the way I think is beyond the way you think.

GOD IS SMARTER THAN ME!!!

The way we think, has everything to do w/ the way our life turns out.

MINDSET MATTERS.

Romans 12:2 Don't copy the behavior & customs of this world, but **let God transform you** into a new person by changing the way you **think**. Then you'll learn to know God's will for you, which is good & pleasing & perfect.

*The goal of every Christian is to be transformed by God,
so we can live in God's perfect will. You can change!*

A.W. Tozer - "One compromise here, another there & soon enough the so-called Christian & the man of the world look the same."

*The grace of Jesus provided salvation from spiritual death & sin,
but He didn't save us from our own thoughts, attitudes, or choices.*

Ephesians 4:22 (1) throw off your old sinful nature & your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust & deception. (2) let the Spirit renew your thoughts & attitudes. *(be renewed in the spirit of your mind)* (3) Put on your new nature, created to be like God-truly righteous & holy.

Let's expose the old man (sin), and face it, deal w/ it.

*Unless we live a lifestyle of conviction - dedicated to Jesus,
the spirit of our mind will drag us back into old man thinking.*

Colossians 3:10 Put on your new nature (*man*), & be renewed as you learn to know your Creator & become like Him.

*When your life is w/ Jesus, your life will be transformed.
We're born again, & now we're reprogramming our thinking!*

James 1:21 Get rid of all the filth & evil in your lives, & humbly accept the word God has planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.

We're talking about soul transformation, the kind that makes us shine as glorious lights of God's reflection in the world.

2 Corinthians 3:18 MSG We are transfigured like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter & more beautiful as God enters our lives & we become like Him.

*As you're renewing your mind, you are transformed.
Then the life, the love, the light of God starts flowing out of us.*

1 Corinthians 2:16 Who can know the Lord's thoughts? Who knows enough to teach Him? But we understand these things, for we have the mind of Christ.

Jesus is trying to bring Christlike transformation to all of us, all the time.

Philippians 2:5 NKJV Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus

*We are called to take dominion over the devil's works in Jesus' name.
We can & will do this as we allow our minds to be changed.*

A powerful way to renew our minds is to think on the Philippians 4 list...

Philippians 4:7 TPT then God's wonderful peace that transcends human understanding, will guard your heart & mind through Jesus Christ. 8 Keep your thoughts continually fixed on all that is authentic & real, honorable & admirable, beautiful & respectful, pure & holy, merciful & kind. And fasten your thoughts on every glorious work of God, praising Him always.

What's it gonna take to make that happen?

A lifestyle of reviewing our hearts, then turning our back & go in a new direction; a commitment to personal change & resolve to live differently.

REPENTANCE

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise, as some people think. No, He's being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent.

Meta'noia: (me-tah'-noy-ah) - a transformative process of changing one's mind; turn away; think different; a change of heart; a spiritual conversion

We are to live a life of metanoia.

Many of us abhor/hate our errors & misdeeds; but have we really determined to change the course of our life; so that it embraces a recognition of our sin & a Godly sorrow?

2 Corinthians 7:10 The kind of sorrow God wants us to experience leads us away from sin & results in salvation. There's no regret for that kind of sorrow. But worldly sorrow, which lacks repentance, results in spiritual death

Stop justifying, excusing, blaming, explaining, etc.

Humble yourself; say God forgive me, heal me, & help me...

Then God empowers us to move forward, & be transformed.

Maybe that'll stop the negative, & heal the relationship/marriage- so rather than finding a way out, we find a way to stay & grow.

But when you justify & never repent. You may never know what God can do. If you only blame & point your finger, but never accept personal responsibility, you may never find out what God will do in your life.

You can't receive forgiveness, "if you have no sin & haven't done anything wrong; it's not your fault; you're a victim" (sarcasm)

You can't be healed & made whole if you never accept your part.

THE 5 A's of REPENTANCE

Admit - you're wrong; confess; own it; acknowledge; accept it

Apologize - for the hurt you caused/imposed on the other person

Accept - the consequences; sin has consequences; results; outcome

Ask - for forgiveness w/ humility; pardon; mercy

Alter - your behavior; w/ God's help- change; transform; adjust; revise

God's trying to move us beyond justifying & covering & blaming.

He made this to work; this will work when we follow His plan.